

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

لآد يمقراطِيَّة يدون
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WASHINGTON U.S.A.

It is our wish to maintain friendship with America. Especially that there was a decent past in the colonial background between the Arab nation and America, contrary to the background between the Arab nation and those who colonized parts of it, such as France, Italy and Britain. But with America there is no colonial background between us.

This strategic attempt to establish friendship between the Arab nation and America began since the late President Gamal Abdel Nasser came to power. Nasser truly expressed the aspirations of the Arab nation. But America did away with this opportunity, and showed unfriendly attitudes towards that initiative, which eventually led to the loss of this historic opportunity and friendship. And made Nasser afterwards turn to the Soviet Union with whom he established a respected and advantageous friendship; free from imperialist ambitions and from military bases. An indication to that is when Egypt after Nasser, wanted

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to dispense with its relation with the Soviet Union, this went easily, unresisted by the Soviet Union. There were no imperialist effects from this friendship in Egypt.

And now Libya - which is raising the banner of Arab nationalism. After the death of Nasser - is pleased that the evacuation of American troops from Libyan soil was carried out peacefully. From our part, we made a new strategic initiative, after Nasser's move, with the aim of establishing friendship between Libya and American and between the Arab nation and America, based on mutual respect, but America treated this initiative with the same hostile spirit with which it had treated Nasser's move. Several aggressive measures have been taken by America against Libya, as represented in a series of bans and the taking of very hostile political and media attitudes.

We find that the same American policy has brought the situation between Libya and America and between the Arab nation and American nation to an extremely grave stage, and America is solely responsible for bringing the situation to this point.

This American policy has brought things to a stage that left no room for any possible initiatives for friendship as was in the past. But now, we are only exploring the possibility of avoiding an armed military clash between the Arabs and the Americans. This can only be avoided if America stops the military steps it has taken which threaten the independence of the Arab homeland, by pulling out its bases out of

of Mascat and Oman and from Somalia, and its AWACS aircrafts, designed for monitoring and early warning, from Saudi Arabia, and to end its occupation of Egypt and keep its naval and air forces away from the Libyan Arab borders in the Mediterranean. Otherwise, an armed confrontation and the outbreak of a war, in the legal term, would regretfully be a possibility within view at any moment, as we are nationally committed to defend our Arab homeland in exercise of the lawful right of self-defense. Should a war breakout - a possibility which cannot be ruled out - it will be a war forced upon us by America and a war for re-establishing the independence of the Arab homeland and fighting off its occupation simply because we did not transgress upon America, nor fought the Americans on their own land.. we did not set up bases for us on American soil or violated American Airspace, or that our aircraft flew over American territory or violated American territorial waters or American territory. It is America that violates the Arab airspace with its war planes..

Under these circumstances, we are entitled to the right of self-defence and all lawful justifications as recognized internationally and nationally, to defend our existence and independence and to fight the American forces on our soil, and soil of Arab homeland. We cannot be fooled by this political trickery and deception - which is accepted by the naive persons that you deal with, whose days are now numbered, the like of whom you dealt with and failed to take stock of your mistakes. Such as the Shah of Iran, Lonh Nol, Idris Senussin, Cao-Ki... The result of dealing with them was their fall on one hand, and the loss for America of the other.

The Deception: That the Arab nation should pay the price of the policies of the big powers from its independence, such as the problem of Afghanistan, the Iranian-Iraqi war and the energy problem. This is something utterly rejected. If America, for instance seeks to confront the Soviet Union on Afghanistan, she should confront him directly. We refuse that the Arab homeland be in the barter which America wants to make as a new imperialist practice to cover up, in effect, its imperialist designs in the Arab homeland. America should realize that Arab petroleum is for the Arabs which is the only wealth in the barren desert in which they live. It is their only source of living, and their food, self-sufficiency and existence depends on this wealth. Thus- the Arabs are fully entitled to preserve and maintain this sole source of living. And to benefit from it as much as possible, and to utilise it to the fullest extent and to die for it. But America ignores this fact and views Arab oil only as a vital matter to its security without realizing that it is a matter of life or death for the Arabs; its rightful owners.

If America, as it says, gets any harm from this oil, being utilised and controlled by its owners, this would make us to interfere in America's right to use the atom and control it. Since this is equally a vital matter and a source of danger to us. If the use of oil by its owner constitutes any danger to others, and if the Arabs are not free to use their own oil, they too are entitled to say that America should not be free in using the atom, because it is a source of danger to them.

This formal selfish logic on the part of America should be dropped forever to be replaced by reasonability and recognition of equality between peoples and nations in an atmosphere of peace, understanding and exchange of interests between nations to be based on advantageous cooperation, not on usurpation and terror.

The other case is the American military protection of the Israeli occupation of Palestine. In this respect we point out the following facts:

It is inconceivable that a big power should take a biased and aligned stand in favour of a certain party in the Middle East. America should have taken a neutral stand in the Arab-Zionist conflict, and should even stand on the side of the persecuted Palestinian people. America cannot, at all, claim to be neutral. And nothing is more indicative on its bias than enabling the Israelis to continue their occupation of Arab land until now. And instead of discontinuing arming the Israelis, America still increases its arms supplies to them, and providing them with all the potentialities of power each year, to enable them to entrench their occupation of The Golan - in Syrian territory - the West Bank in the Jordanian territory and Ghaza and Sinai in the Egyptian territory. And enabling them by the force of arms to work for the extermination of the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples by the raids and attacks they launch from land, sea and air.

Hence, I have to say, that it is the duty of the Arabs, as would be forced, to fight at any time, for the liberation of their occupied land. And since America provides protection to the Israelis, it virtually prevents the Arabs from liberating their land. And if the Arabs were able to restore any part of occupied Palestine, America will intervene immediately in the war considering this to be an occupation of Israeli territories, in complete disregard of the fact that the Israelis have occupied, after Palestine, in the years 1967 and 1973, new Arab territories without anyone intervening to prevent this occupation. Of course any American military intervention, should it occur, would pave the way for interference by other military powers from outside the area, a situation which put us instantly before a third world war, for which the Israelis alone are responsible, by their occupation of Palestine and the other Arab territories.

By protecting this occupation, and their interference in all these dangerous fronts, including Masirah Island, Mascat, Oman, Somalia, Palestine, Egypt, Lebanon, the Gulf and the Arabian Peninsula, the Americans are virtually forcing the Arabs to fight them. We would be fighting on our own land. American forces that crossed the Atlantic Ocean, the Indian Ocean, the Arabian Sea, the Mediterranean and the Red Sea, and landed over our heads. For us this is a legitimate and Holy defence.

The legitimacy of this battle, which might occur any moment, as being in self-defence, puts us in an unhesitating position to rally about it and fight it even if it comes to the emergence of another Vietnam or a Third World War.

Consequently, the responsibility for this situation will be borne by the aggressor and not by the one defending his existence on his soil. With this clarification, we see that America stands at the crossroad at this interval: either it takes the road of peace by pulling its forces from the Arab homeland and from its sea, air and land frontiers and let the Arab petroleum to be for the Arabs, and to take a neutral stand in the Middle East, or to continue on the road of war and aggression.

Out of our love for peace, and the rescue of the world, and out of clear conscience, we address this historic message to you. If you are a lover of peace too and take the welfare of mankind to heart. We are of the opinion that your electiral platform should be based on a new peacefulpolicy for the U.S.A. in accordance with the facts outlined above, with which you have to address the American Arabs, the American Jews, the Black and White Americans and the American Indians, so that they will rally around you and vote for you. Having fulfilled this, you will have our support and goodwill.

I believe that with this message, I have rendered you, a valuable message by making things clear to you from the point of view of the Arab nation and its revolutionary forces which are now leading the battle of liberation, development, dignity and unity, and which will ultimately emerge victorious with all certainty.

Whoever ignores these facts would be defeated.

These facts might have been unclear to you in the past, because America and its successive administrations used to deal with the naive, lackies, and corrupt and ignorant people, disregarding the real Revolutionary Force that works for bringing about the future of the Arab nation. I believe that this disregard on the part of America, was responsible for this distorted image about the Arab nation, and put America at loss in its dealing with the Arab nation.

May Peace be on who follows the path of guidance.

COLONEL MUAMMAR GADDAFI

October 16, 1980